

Def. Doc. No. 1164

A STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE JAPANESE GARRISON
HEADQUARTERS IN CHINA. (JULY 23, 1937)

It is a matter of sincere regret that a series of armed ^{clashes} have occurred between the Japanese and Chinese troops in North China since July, 7, when the Japanese troops were unlawfully ^{fired} upon by the Chinese troops at Lukouchiao. From the very beginning of this unfortunate incident, the Japanese Army, in the face of ^{the} utterly unwarranted and clearly premeditated provocation on the part of the Chinese troops, have exerted every effort for a peaceful settlement of the whole affair in accordance with our fixed policy of strictly localizing and peacefully settling the present complications on the spot.

Unfortunately however, this sincere attitude on the part of the Japanese army has only had the result of inviting further acts of challenge and repeated breaches of faith by the Chinese troops, who have revealed no sign of abandoning their attitude of ^{stance} resistance and insult to the Japanese, even after they had definitely ^{-sed} expressed their compliance with the Japanese demands and signed an agreement to that effect.

The Chinese troops, meanwhile, have become so arrogant and challenging as to have not only caused the frequent obstruction of our lines of communication and traffic but also dared to launch actions of proved premeditated provocation toward the Japanese troops.

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Particularly contemptible are the acts of the Chinese troops, who, violating the definite pledge given by them beforehand to the Japanese Military Authorities shamelessly started surprise attacks on the Japanese troops at Wang-pai, on July 25, when a Japanese detachment was sent there to repair the military telegraph lines, and again at Kuan-an men, an outer gate of Peiping, on July 26, when another Japanese contingent was de^spatched for the protection of the Japanese residents in Peiping.

The frequent repetition of these unwarranted and unlawful actions on the part of the Chinese troops evidently proves that they have been deliberately carrying out a plan of provocation, thereby clearly showing their attitude of defiance and contempt toward the Japanese troops.

Moreover, China has committed a serious and unpardonable breach of faith in rushing northward a formidable number of Central Army troops in utter violation of the Ho-Umesu Agreement and steadily perfecting preparation for action against the Japanese troops.

The above circumstances clearly indicate that peace and order in North China has now been completely disrupted and that the lives and property ^{-i.e.-} of the Japanese residents are exposed to imminent danger. Needless to say, the maintenance of peace and order in North China is a matter of serious concern to both Japan and Manchoukuo, but every means at our disposal for a peaceful settlement of the present complications have now been exhausted.

There now only remains the resolute step of meting out a

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deserved punishment to the challenging Chinese troops.

We deeply regret that things have come to such an unfortunate pass in spite of the sincerity and patience of the Japanese Army to localize and peacefully liquidate the present Sino-Japanese combination in North China.

The Japanese punitive expedition, of course, is aimed solely at these Chinese forces who have been persistently challenging the Japanese troops and we have no intention whatever of making the 100 million Chinese population in North China the objective of our punitive action. Furthermore, in taking this step, we intend to exert our best in restoring peace and order in North China as speedily as possible with a view to promoting the welfare of the people in this part of China. We desire also to make it clear that our troops have no intention of using force inside the walled town of Peiping unless the Chinese troops remaining there should try to challenge the Japanese troops, thereby precipitating an armed clash.

It goes without saying that, recognizing the rights and interests of foreign nationals in China, we will try our best to accord adequate protection to the lives and property of the foreign nationals and, last but not least important, take this opportunity of affirming that we entertain absolutely no territorial designs on North China even if we take necessary military actions for the punishment of recalcitrant Chinese troops.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI Kaoru, the Chief of Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of 3 pages and entitled "A Statement issued by the Japanese Garrison Headquarters in China (July 28, 1937)" is an exact and true copy of an official document of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certify at Tokyo,
on this 11th day of April 1947.

E. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness: K. Urabe

辯護側文書第一一六四號

在支日本守備隊本部聲明書

(一九三七年七月二十八日)

七月七日盧溝橋ニ於ケル支那軍部隊ノ日本軍部隊ニ對スル不法發砲以來
北支ニ於テ日支兩軍間ニ武力衝突ノ續發ヲ見ツ、アルハ甚々遺憾ノ狀態
ナリ。日本軍ハコノ不幸ナル事件發生ノ當初ヨリ支那軍部隊ノ全ク不當
ニシテ計畫的ナル挑戰ニモ拘ラズ、現在紛糾ヲ嚴ニ其ノ局地ニ止メ平和
的ニ解決セントスル我ラ不變ノ方針ニ基キ本事件全体ノ平和的解決ノ爲
ニ總ユル努力ヲ致シ來レリ。

然レドモ不幸ニシテ日本軍ノ誠意アル態度ニ酬ユルニ支那軍部隊ハ更ニ
挑戰行爲ト度重ナル背信行爲トヲ以テシ、日本側ノ要求承服ノ意ヲ明確
ニ表明シソノ旨ノ協約ニ調印セル後ト雖モ毫モ日本側ニ對スル抵抗ト悔
辱ノ態度ヲ改ムルノ徵ナシ。

然ル處支那軍部隊ハ益々傲慢ニシテ挑戰的態度ニ出デ屢々我通信、交通
線ノ遮斷防害ヲ行ヒタルノミナラズ日本軍部隊ニ對シ明カニ計畫的ナル

挑發的行動ヲスラ敢テ開始スルニ至リタリ。

支那軍部隊ノ行動ノ特ニ卑劣ナルハ日本軍當局ニ前以テ與ヘオキタル明確ナル誓約ニ違反シ七月二十五日日本軍が軍用電信線修繕ノ目的ヲ以テ即坊ニ派遣セル部隊ニ對シ、又更ニ七月二十六日北京外門廣安門ニ於テ北京在留日本人保護ノ目的ヲ以テ派遣セル他ノ分遣隊ニ對シ、恥ヅル處ナク之ニ急襲ヲ加ヘタル等ナリ。

支那軍ガ力、ル不法行爲ヲ頻繁ニ反復セルハ明カニ彼等ガ故意ニ挑發計畫ヲ實行シツ、アルヲ證明スルモノニシテ、明瞭ニ日本軍ニ對スル反抗ト侮蔑ノ態度ヲ示スモノナリ。

加之、支那ハ梅津、何應欽協定ニ甚シク違反シ、中央軍部隊ノ大勢ヲ北ニ進メ、重大許スベカラザルノ背信ヲ犯シ、除々ニ反日本軍行動ノ準備ヲ完成シツ、アリ。

上述ノ諸種ノ狀況ハ明カニ北支ニ於ケル治安ノ完全ニ瓦解セラレタルコト、並ニ在留日本人ノ生命財產ハ將ニ危險ニ傾シテタルコトヲ示スモノナリ。言フマデモ無ク北支ニ於ケル治安ノ維持ハ日滿兩國ニトリテ重大關心事ニシテ、今ヤ目下ノ紛糾ノ平和的解決策トシテ我等ノ爲サント欲

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シタル處ハ悉ク之ヲ試ミ盡シタリ。今ニシテ瀕ル唯一ノ手段ハ、決然彼

ノ挑戰的支那軍ニ對シ相當ノ懲罰ヲ科スルノ方途アルノミ。

北支ニ於ケル日支兩國間ノ紛糾ヲ現地ニ止メ、平和裡ニ解決セントスル
日本軍ノ誠意ト忍耐トニ不拘事態ガ新ノ如キ不幸ナル段階ニ立至リタル
ハ我等ノ深ク遺憾トスル處ナリ。

勿論、日本ノ討伐軍派遣ハ執拗ニ日本軍ニ挑戰ヲ爲シツ、アル之等支那
軍隊ニ對スルモノニシテ、北支ニ於ケル一億ノ支那民衆ヲ討伐行動ノ目
標トナスノ意志ハ毛頭有スルモノニ非ズ。加フルニ今回ノ暴ニ出ヅルニ
當リ我等ハ力ヲ盡シ可及的速力ニ北支ニ於ケル平和ト秩序ヲ回復シ支那
ノ此ノ地區ニ在任スル民衆ノ福祉ヲ増進センコトヲ企圖ス。

尙我等ハ支那軍殘存部隊カ日本軍ニ戰ヲ挑ミ武力衝突ヲ促進スルノ舉ニ
出デサル限り日本軍ハ北京城内ニ於テ武力ヲ行使スルノ意志ヲ有セサル
コトヲ明瞭ナラシメント欲ス。

改メテ言フ費ス迄モナク我等ハ在支諸外國人ノ權益ヲ認メ其等諸外國人
ノ生命並ニ財産ニ適當ナル保護ヲ與ヘン爲ニ最善ノ努力ヲ致スベク、尙
終リニ臨ミ重要ナル一事トシテ假令我等ハ強情反抗ヲ改メサル支那軍ノ

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脅威ニ對シテ必要ナル軍事行動ヲ採ルト雖モ北支ニ對シ絕体ニ領土的野望ヲ有スルモノニ非ザルコトヲ茲ニ斷言スルモノナリ。